

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A process for preparing bead polymers having an average particle size of 1 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ , comprising:

contacting:

at least one polymerizable mix which comprises at least 50% by weight of at least one (meth)acrylate monomer,

at least one aluminum compound, and

an aqueous phase,

to prepare a mixture;

dispersing said mixture at a shear rate  $\geq 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to form a dispersion, wherein said dispersion is stabilized by said aluminum compound; and

polymerizing to produce bead polymers having an average particle size of 1 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said aluminum compound is  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ .

Claim 3 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said aluminum compound is  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ , and the process further comprises preparing the  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$  by precipitation.

Claim 4 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the aluminum compound, based on the weight of the polymerizable mix, is 0.5 to 200% by weight.

Claim 5 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the aluminum compound, based on the weight of the polymerizable mix, is 3 to 100% by weight.

Claim 6 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the aluminum compound, based on the weight of the polymerizable mix, is 4 to 20% by weight.

Claim 7 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the bead polymers have an average particle size of 5 to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 8 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerizable mix comprises at least 60% by weight of (meth)acrylate monomer.

Claim 9 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said mixture further comprises at least one emulsifier.

Claim 10 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said mixture further comprises at least one emulsifier, and wherein the concentration of the emulsifier, based on the weight of the aluminum compound, is 0 to 5% by weight.

Claim 11 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said mixture further comprises at least one emulsifier, and wherein the concentration of the emulsifier, based on the weight of the aluminum compound, is 0.3 to 3% by weight.

Claim 12 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein, after the polymerizing, said bead polymers are comprised within a second dispersion, and wherein the process further comprises filtering the second dispersion.

Claim 13 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein, after the polymerizing, said bead polymers are comprised within a second dispersion, and wherein the process further comprises adding at least one acid to the second dispersion.

Claim 14 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein, after the polymerizing, said bead polymers are comprised within a second dispersion, wherein the process further comprises adding at least one acid to the second dispersion, filtering, and drying the bead polymers.

Claim 15 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, further comprising contacting said bead polymers with at least one matrix monomer or polymer.

Claim 16 (Original): The mixture prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): ~~The dispersion~~ A molded article prepared from the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 18 (Original): The bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A molded article prepared from a PAMA plastisol, wherein the PAMA plastisol comprises ~~comprising the~~ bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A molded dental ~~composition~~ article, ~~comprising~~ prepared from the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 21 (Original): A porous mould, comprising at least one plastic and the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 22 (Original): A moulding composition, comprising the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 23 (Original): A moulding having at least one matt surface, comprising the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1.

Claim 24 (Original): A composition, comprising the bead polymers prepared by the process of Claim 1 in contact with at least one matrix polymer.

Claim 25 (Original): A process for preparing bead polymers having an average particle size of 1 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ , comprising:  
contacting:

at least one polymerizable mix which comprises at least 50% by weight of at least one (meth)acrylate monomer,  
at least one means for stabilizing a dispersion, and  
an aqueous phase,  
to prepare a mixture;  
dispersing said mixture at a shear rate  $\geq 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$  to form the dispersion, wherein said dispersion is stabilized by said means for stabilizing; and  
polymerizing to produce bead polymers having an average particle size of 1 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 26 (Original): The process according to Claim 1, wherein said means for stabilizing comprises at least one aluminum compound.

REMARKS

Claims 17, 19, and 20 have been amended to recite molded articles. The amended claims are believed to be supported throughout the specification. No new matter is believed to be added by entry of the amended claims. Claims 1-26 are active.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for examination on the merits. Early notification to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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